



Coach Ramon Wiseman shouts instructions to William Fagan before he hits in the 9th

Split Openers

Wildcats Beat

'Best,' Not 'Rest'

The Mulvane High School baseball Wildcats beat 'the best' but couldn't beat 'the rest' Monday evening, March 31, when Buhler's Crusaders came to town to open the 2003 season with a Chisholm Trail League doubleheader.

It took extra innings but the Wildcats dumped Buhler's best two pitchers in the tank with a 5-4 victory in the opener, but Mulvane's defense fell apart in nightcap and Buhler capitalized on that fact for a 12-1 drubbing of the Cats at the Mulvane sports complex.

"We had good pitching and solid defense in that first game," said Cat Coach Ramon Wiseman. "That's why you win ball games. That's what it takes. But in the second game, everything came apart. We couldn't find anybody to throw strikes and our defense went to pieces with five or six errors I believe."

The opener, though, was a masterpiece against the Crusaders' top two pitchers. They both threw smoke but the Wildcats doused that fire by banging six hits in a well-played game for the first one for both teams.

"I thought at the beginning of that game we were pretty aggressive at the plate but we got more passive as the game progressed," said Wiseman. "We faced two pretty good pitchers. That Faulkner was all-league last year and so was Wray. They were both coming close to 90 (miles per hour) but we hung in there and got the job done."

The Wildcats got the job done behind the sterling silver relief performance of sophomore Logan Sorensen, who blanked the Crusaders over the last four innings. He gave up only one hit and gained the victory.

That gave the Cats time to regroup. At one time, the hosts were ahead, 4-0, but Buhler reached Mulvane starter Jimmie High, a senior, in the 6th inning in a four-run rally that featured two home runs.

That tied the game at 4's until the 10th inning when Mulvane put together a two-out spurt to win it. Outfielder Jason Wohlford banged a single up the middle and went to 3rd when junior Greg Flores singled in nearly the same path. With runners at the corners and two outs, Wiseman took a gamble by running Flores with hopes of Buhler making a play on him. At the same time, Wohlford broke from third, scoring when the throw to the plate was bobbled.

"The pitcher stepped off the rubber to make a play on Flores and when he did, we went for the plate," said Wiseman. "If the play works, it's good. They botched the throw and that ended the game."

"I thought that first game was about the best game we have played in my years here," added the MHS coach. "Gunter really had some excellent (defensive) plays to save some runs and we had only one error in 10 innings."

Gunter, second sacker William Fagan and Pat Myers at 1st base turned two double plays to bail the Wildcats out of trouble, and Gunter also made two other excellent pick-ups, on one diving to get a force-out at 2nd base in an 8th inning play.

The Cats were off and running in inning No. 1. Gunter's single was followed by a two-run shot out of the park by clean-up batter Andrew Brusco. That gave Mulvane a 2-0 lead until the 3rd inning when Myers walked, stole second and eventually scored on a passed ball.

In the 4th, Mulvane pushed another run across, Sorensen scoring after reaching on an error. Jason Wohlford walked and Flores

FIRST GAME

Buhler	000 004 000 0—4 6
Mulvane	201 100 000 1—5 6
Sean Faulkner, Lindy Wray 6, and Krankenberg; Jimmie High, Logan Sorensen 5, and Andrew Brusco, Ben Humbolt	
HR—Langvardt and Schneweis (B); Andrew Brusco (M)	

SECOND GAME

Buhler	120 63—12 6
Mulvane	000 10—1 4
Ben Corwin and Krankenberg; Pat Myers, Jason Martin 4, Jeff Wohlford 4, and Andrew Brusco.	
HR— Andrew Brusco (M).	

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moved the runners over leading to Sorensen scoring on a passed ball.

The second game was completely different. 11 walks and five errors left Wiseman wondering what happened to his team between games.

"We beat ourselves," said Wiseman. "We beat ourselves in the field and on the mound by putting people on with free passes. After we played so well in the first one, it's hard to figure out why. Pat (Myers) is either on or he's off."

The Crusaders scored in almost every inning as they pulled away.

Mulvane finally broke the shutout up when Brusco pounded his second home run of the day, a solo shot in the 4th inning. The only other hits for the Cats were singles by Fagan, Gunter and Nick Hall.

Mulvane will travel for its next doubleheader. The Wildcats will play Andale today (April 3) but the games will be played in Colwich. The doubleheader will start at 4 p.m.